

**Amendments to the Specification:**

*Please replace paragraph [63 ] with the following amended paragraph:*

[63] Each node must keep track of the order in which the reservations are made so that access to the global bus may be provided accordingly. Alternatively, the above-described operation of the system of Figure 8 3B may be modified such that the next-most subordinate reservation must be stored to the counter having the next higher subscript value, until the highest subscript value is reached and a wrap-around to the lowest subscript value is necessary. These and other obvious methods of prioritizing the reservations into the counters fall within the scope of the invention.